

1 of 2 10/23/06 11:00 AM the engineering improvements, avoiding \$500 million in property damage. Insurer FM Global says the \$500 million in savings came after customer investments of only \$2.5 million, and helped make the company profitable in a year when few insurers were.

Evan Mills, the Ceres report's lead author and a scientist at the U.S. Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, said the offerings are impressive.

"The insurance sector is poised to make a major contribution to long-term national and international efforts to curb the growth of greenhouse-gas emissions, while helping to fortify society against the near-term impacts of climate change," Mills said.

"Last year's hurricanes were a real wake-up call for the industry, and many U.S. insurers are creating programs to help businesses minimize future losses. Many of these strategies represent new profit centers for insurers, rather than simply symbolic and charitable activities."

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